



Michigan Food Policy Council
Council Meeting Minutes
November 22, 2011

In attendance were:

Mike Rowe#
Dennis West#
Seleana Samuel#
Rich Pirog for CS Mott G
Randy Bell G
Amanda Edmonds#
Jim Goodheart#
Diana Carpenter G
Brooke Pung G
Pat Gagliard for AFD#
Betti Wiggins G
Mary Stephenson G

Kathy Fedder for Neogen#
Terry McLean G
Kevin Besey G
Kathryn Colasanti for CS Mott#
Stephanie Kozak G
Jennifer Fike G
Todd Regis#
Nancy Short G
Eugene Barnes#
Emma Landgraf G
Keith Creagh#
Jane Whitacre#

Not in attendance were:

Patricia Cantrell#
Diane Golzynski#
Ben Korman#
Kenneth Nobis#
Brad Purves#

Edward Deeb#
Lydia Gutierrez#
Marla Moss#
Susan Novakowski#
Wayne Wood#

= council members

G = nonmember

- Introductions of attendees and who they represent

Keith Creagh

- Few comments regarding fit of MFPC mission with MDARD

Jane Whitacre- Director Report:

- Thanking community partners for joining the MFPC for a common goal
- Pilot Food Survey
- Incubator kitchens
 - Hope to have an interactive map to click and locate incubator kitchens
 - Hope to have more operating incubator kitchens
 - Surveying three Southeast counties for general information on space
 - Will send surveys for further information, wants, needs
 - Will expand to other counties at a later date
- Good Food Charter alignment

- Handout was provided the ‘Michigan Good Food Charter Executive Summary - Initiatives in line with MFPC
 - Jane Whitacre attended the UP Food Summit
 - Have been exploring the partnership with MSU Extension’s community food system staff. MSU Extension, Terry McLean mentioned that they are leaders in sharing information and can partner with MFPC the building of local/community food councils. Need to determine:
 - How will the MFPC identify the local councils
 - Will they need to adopt MFPC’s Charter
 - Current funding sources for MFPC
 - \$50,000 grant from WKKF for 3 years Thru March 2014
 - MDCH lead on obesity summit
 - MDARD lead health and nutrition – align with Governor’s Health and Wellness special message:
 - Reached out to major processors (Gerber, Kellogg)
 - nutritional training for physicians working with WIC
 - nutritional training for local and private partners
 - healthy and nutritional food initiatives
 - increasing access to healthy food
 - need some kind of support and education for retailers
- 5 Food Hubs Network
 - Possible locations could be Marquette, Traverse City, Grand Rapids, SE Michigan, Lansing
 - Center location for food councils
 - education on nutrition –build in that capacity
 - local foods to schools
 - product aggregating and buying
 - transportation of fresh produce at the micro business level
 - food hub outreach
 - on campus organic gardening...students
 - Facility cook did not understand nutritional aspects of the grown foods.... Food service
 - Did not know how to cook.... consumers
- Amanda Edmonds:** “Michigan has the highest WIC (Project Fresh) use at farmers markets in the USA, need to support Project Fresh”
- If food hub introduces a fruit or vegetable-have to be responsible in education preparation. Betti Wiggins, food service director from Detroit Public Schools commented:
 - Detroit Public Schools are buying local
 - Food must be prepared in 1 or 2 simple steps
 - raw produce needs to come in ready to steam
 - 900,000 children in DPS
 - Buying 20% local now

- Cost has risen
 - A juice box cost is 9¢ per student, a fresh pear cost is 35¢ per student
 - Students getting some meatless meals
 - Are the growers/producers going to be able to provide product
 - If all school districts participate could buy out the supply
- There are 192 schools participating in farm to schools
- Eastern Market is helping
- Don't know how many growers are available
 - MDARD will help Betti find sources
- Strategic Plan
 - Open seats for council member
 - Fill out application
 - Submit to Governor for possible appointment
 - Goal is to have all seats filled by fall 2012

Council Goals

- Jane went over each goal (Farmer capacity to produce, Institutional Purchasing, Access, Building agri-businesses to produce more food, building statewide, local food policy council network)
 - Is there any data for a base line?, need some sort of measurement to see if MFPC is meeting their goals, how do we measure?
- The Council agreed to develop task forces to address each goal: 1) Farmer capacity to produce, 2) Institutional Purchasing, 3) Access, 4) Building agri-businesses to produce more food, 5) building statewide, local food policy council network
 - Process for Task Forces:
 - Affirm General charge
 - Identify additional members who may be stakeholders
 - *Create strategies – each task force will identify 2 short term and 1 long term strategy for the MFPC to undertake to support / meet their task force goal.*
 - General process to follow
 - Meetings face to face and teleconference for results
 - Need to explore Good Food Charter opportunities for alignment
 - Diversify members of task force
 - May recruit from outside MFPC
 - Stakeholders
 - Need to identify metrics for each task force goal so task force knows how to start and know what they need to resolve
 - Make sure to use the Governor's dashboard and the Good Food Charter are used in meeting your goal and as a way to measure
- Betti Wiggins asked: should a task force be made up of just school lunch directors
 - They speak the same language
 - Stakeholders-K-12, buyers, nutritional educators
 - Maybe including university school lunch programs

- We could have more than 35 task forces and may not be productive
- Many of these lunch programs are already meeting on their own
- Farm to school program-should have every school in Michigan have at least 1 Michigan product on the menu daily
- Why the MFPC integrated the Good Food Charter
 - Was incorporated into the MFPC to bring a focus to the council's work
 - MFPC looked at the Charter and sought out 5 or so goals into the council
 - The Ag Commission adopted the Charter
 - The state can't solve everything
 - We need local assistance to build engagement and expertise
 - Council's function and goals
 - Making connections and awareness
 - What are the barriers in supporting the local groups

Seleana Samuels: "The DOC last year compiled a common menu for all DOC facilities. Could we do this with schools?"

Kathryn Colasanti gave a power point presentation, requesting that the MPC assist with the data collection needed to measure progress on Good Food Charter Goals:

Highlights included:

- MFPC is the liaison to state government
- There is no solid understanding of measurements toward goals
- Intuitional purchasing, Agrifood business generation, Farm profitability, food access
- We need a better strategy for collecting usable data
- Need to decide what data we want to collect
- We will need a measurement to see if we met our data collection needs
- What impact did the data offer?

Follow up, work to do, before next meeting

1. Form and convene task forces. Identify a Chair for each task force. Be sure to address metrics and alignment with Governor's initiatives within each task force
2. Complete appointments for MFPC. Fill seats open seats.
3. Post local food policy council guide on MFPC website along with other appropriate documents.
4. Formulate MFPC response to request by Kathryn Colasanti

Meeting adjourned at 12 :15 pm